

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Sinking of Soviet Merchant Ship DATE DISTR. 6 November 1953

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

- 1. Rumors have been circulating in Swinoujscie (Swinemuende), Poland, that the westbound Soviet Liberty-class ship AKADEMIK KRYLOV, between 8,000 and 10,000 BRT, sank in early September a few miles from the Polish lighthouse of Rozewie located near Jastrzeba Gora (not located). The ship allegedly turned over when the load of bulk grain it was carrying suddenly shifted in the holds during a storm. Only two men out of the crew of 80 were rescued by a Polish motor boat. These two survivors were brought to Gdynia and then were turned over to the Soviet Consulate in Gdansk.
- 2. The Soviet ship which allegedly sank was the KURYLOV. 2

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Comment: The Soviet ship AKADEMIK KRYLOV is the former German MATTHIAS STINNES of 7,500 DWT.

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<u>Comment</u>: The name KURYIOV probably resulted from an error in the transposition from Russian to Polish.